



H.R. 1982 – Rural Housing and Economic Development Improvement Act of 2007

Floor Situation

H.R. 1982 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Ruben Hinojosa (D-TX) on April 20, 2007, and was reported by voice vote, as amended, by the Committee on Financial Services on June 21, 2007.

H.R. 1982 is expected to be considered on the floor on July 16, 2007.

Summary

H.R. 1982 authorizes \$30 million for FY2008 and \$40 million for each year FY2009 – FY2013 for the Rural Housing and Economic Development (RHED) program.

The bill reauthorizes this program at the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to “support housing and economic development activities in rural areas.”

The bill requires that for any continuing or new recipient of assistance under this program that each family member of a family receiving assistance must have a valid social security number.

Background

Republican Committee staff advise that in the Administration’s FY2008 budget the Administration proposed to consolidate the RHED program with the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. The Administration feels that CDBG is capable of reaching the same communities and activities as RHED, but with a lower administrative burden. However, some Members have sought to preserve this program as it is the only program at HUD solely devoted to serving rural communities.

Cost

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimates that enacting H.R. 1982 would not affect direct spending or revenues.

Staff Contact

For questions or further information contact Matt Lakin at (202) 226-2302.